

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 3, 18 and 19 without prejudice.

1. (Amended) [A recombinant] An isolated nucleic acid encoding a DRG11 protein,
~~wherein said nucleic acid hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a complement of a~~
~~nucleic acid molecule having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, and wherein said~~
~~DRG11 protein is characterized by its natural expression in sensory neurons and dorsal horn~~
~~neurons of the spinal cord and wherein its natural expression is absent in non-neuronal cells,~~
~~sympathetic neurons and ventricular neurons of the spinal cord.~~

2. (Twice Amended) [A recombinant] An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1
encoding the amino acid sequence depicted in Figure 3 (SEQ ID NO:2) [2 (SEQ ID NO:1)].

3. (Twice Amended) [A recombinant] An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1
comprising the nucleic acid depicted in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:1).

4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid according to claim 1 operably linked to an [An]
expression vector comprising transcriptional and translational regulatory DNA [operably
linked to DNA encoding a DRG11 protein].

5. (Amended) A method of producing a DRG11 protein comprising: